INCOMING TELEGRAM

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FROM: Brussels

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 232, August 11, 6 p.m.

After listening to reading of decree conferring powers voted this morning Baudouin, Prince Royal, took constitutional oath shortly after three p.m. before joint session Parliament. When Prince was about read oath six Communists present, who alone remained seated, began shouting , "Vive la republique" which was instantly drowned by spontaneous and long applause from Parliament. President van Cauwelaert described Communist behavior as disgrace to Belgian people and threatened them with expulsion from Chamber. Through rest of proceedings Communists remained silent.

After hearing President's address of welcome Prince Royal read reply and left chamber. Prince who was dressed lieutenant general's uniform conducted himself with much dignity and made an excellent impression. Texts by pouch.

MURPHY

BA:ERB

755.11/8-1150

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REVIEWED BY J.L. Smith DATE NOV 19 1982

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